Death of HPT-32 Trainee IAF Pilot

920. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether last year, a HPT-32 Trainee IAF pilot lost his life in Hyderabad; if so, what are the causes for such an incident;

(b) whether it is a fact that this is the 10th HPT-32 crash since 1989; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to avoid such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The cause of the accident was Human Error (Aircrew) due to inexperience of the pilot.

(b) A total number of fourteen (14) HPT-32 have crashed since 1989.

(c) A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) of concerned countries are also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

New Schemes for the Improvement of NCC

921. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched new schemes/programmes for the qualitative improvement of the efficiency of NCC cadets for improving the defence preparedness of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds issued to Rajasthan, for the purposes of NCC activities, during current financial year;

(d) the status of the utilization thereof;